

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the amount of repeating units represented by the formula (1) is 0.1 mol% or more and 50 mol% or less based on the total amount of the repeating units represented by the formulae (1) and (8), and to replace “consisting essentially of” with “comprising” and to delete the recitation “at least one of R1' and R2' is an alkoxyphenyl group.” Section 112 support is found, for example, at page 31, lines 1-3 of the specification.

Claim 6 has been amended to delete the recitation “and the amount of repeating units represented by formula (1) is 0.1 mol% or more and 95 mol% or less based on the total amount of the repeating units represented by formulae (1) and (8).”

Claim 7 has been amended to delete the recitation “and the amount of repeating units represented by the formula (1) is 5 mol% or more and 95 mol% or less based on the total amount of the repeating units represented by the formulae (1) and (8)” and to replace “50 mol%” with “70 mol%.” Section 112 support is found, for example, at page 28, line 9 of the specification.

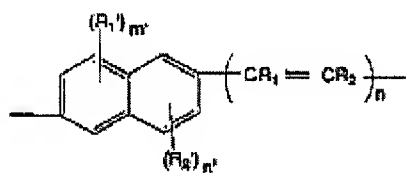
No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 6-17 are pending.

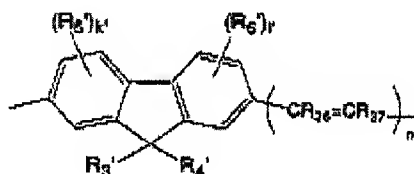
In paragraph No. 3 of the Action, Claims 1 and 6-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Shi et al (US 6,361,887 B1).

Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn because Shi et al does not disclose or render obvious the present invention.

As recited in present Claim 1 as amended, the polymeric fluorescent substance of the present invention comprises a unit (1) containing a substituted 2,6-naphthalenediyl group and a unit (8) containing a 2,7-fluorenediyl group



(1)

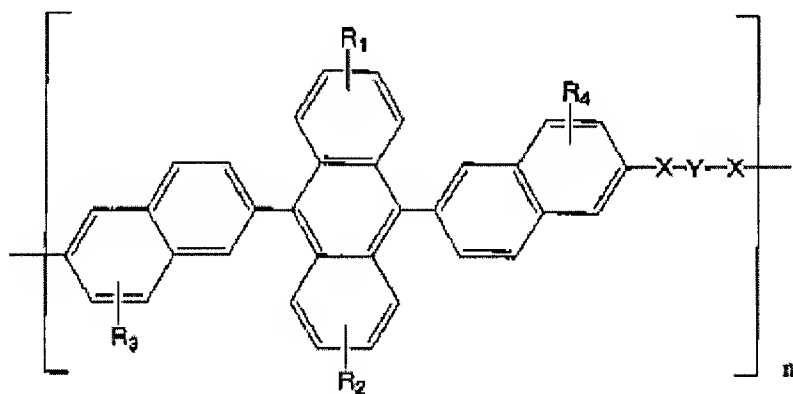


(8)

and the amount of the unit (1) is 50 mol% or less based on the total amount of the units of the formulae (1) and (8).

For the sake of simplicity, the formulae (1) and (8) are expressed incorporating the structures of (1)' and (2)' to the original formulae (1) and (8), respectively.

Shi et al discloses a polymeric fluorescent substance of the below formula. As an example of Y, fluorene is illustrated therein.



According to the above formula taught by Shi et al, the molar ratio of the repeating unit of naphthalenediyl is twice as much as Y, which includes fluorene.

This fact leads to that the amount of naphthalenediyl is more than that of Y; that is, the amount of naphthalenediyl is more than 50 mol% based on the total amount of naphthalenediyl and Y.

Therefore, Shi et al teaches away from the present invention recited in Claim 1 as amended, in which the amount of naphthalenediyl is 50 mol% or less.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection based on Shi et al are respectfully requested.

In paragraph No. 4 of the Action, Claims 1 and 6-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Noguchi et al (EP 1 043 382 A2).

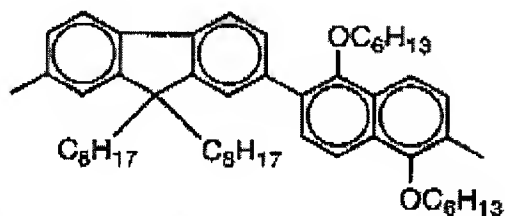
Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn because Noguchi et al does not disclose or render obvious the present invention.

Noguchi et al discloses a large number of substituted or unsubstituted arylene groups (Chemical formulae 9-13, 37 groups) including 2,6-naphthalenediyl groups and 2,7-fluorenediyl groups, but does not disclose a specific copolymer of the present invention comprising a substituted 2,6-naphthylenediyl group and a 2,7-fluorenediyl group in an amount as recited in Claim 1 as amended. Therefore, Noguchi et al does not teach or suggest the copolymer comprising two repeating units satisfying the molar ratio required in Claim 1 as amended.

Further, Noguchi et al does not teach or suggest that polymers comprising repeating unit of naphthalene having one or more substituents are superior to those without substituents. As shown in Example 1 and Comparative Example 1 of the specification, the former is excellent in Fluorescent strength.

Example 1

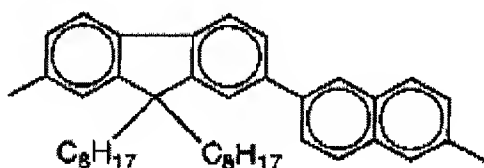
Repeating unit of the polymeric fluorescent substance



Relative value of Fluorescent strength = 2.0

Comparative Example 1

Repeating unit of the polymeric fluorescent substance



Relative value of Fluorescent strength = 0.42

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection based on Noguchi et al are respectfully requested.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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